

GOTHAM CITY ANGLING CLUB LTD – RULES

Introduction

1. The Club's Articles of Association authorise it to make rules relating to the conduct of members when on the river. These rules were approved by the Club's AGM on [xxxx], will take effect immediately and will supersede all previous versions.

2. The Club's Board will regularly review the rules and may make recommendations to the AGM about any changes deemed necessary.

3. In exceptional circumstances, the Board may amend the rules at any time, and without prior notice. It will only do so in the best interests of the Club and/or the safety of its members, or where required by law, or by a riparian owner. The Club will notify all members of any changes to the Rules as soon as possible. Such change is subject to ratification, in respect of future seasons, at the next AGM.

THE RULES

1. Fishing Seasons, Times and Methods

Trout – fly only, 25 March - 30 September.

Grayling – fly only 16 June- 14 March, float fishing (using worm only) 1 October – 14 March.

Pike – fly only 16 June- 30 September, deadbait or lure fishing (minimum lure length 6.5 cm) 1 October – 14 March.

All dates are **inclusive**.

Members must only fish with a **single rod**.

Fishing is permitted between one hour before **sunrise** and one hour after **sunset**.

2. Environment Agency

Members must have an Environment Agency rod licence, and be familiar with and comply with the Agency's fishing byelaws (which can be accessed on the EA website).

3. Taking fish

Trout – 2 brown trout fish over 10" may be taken by a member and/or their guest on any one day; if a fish is, or appears to be, a **wild trout of any size** it should be returned.

All other fish, including pike and grayling, must be returned.

4. Nets and Fish Care

Landing nets must be knotless, of adequate size and 'fish friendly'.

If you are **returning** a fish after capture, please do so quickly, causing as little damage as possible; keepnets are not permitted.

Only barbless or micro-barbed hooks should be used. Anglers must ensure that they you use appropriate **unhooking** equipment, such as forceps.

Be aware that, in **low water conditions** in summer, especially when temperatures are high, the water is less oxygenated and fish suffer increased stress by capture. The club may instruct that fishing is suspended when water temperatures are at consistently high levels.

5. Pike fishing

Only suitable specialist tackle must be used for pike, including wire traces, unhooking mat and large landing net. Guidance is available from the Club on pike fishing techniques, including safe unhooking.

6. Hooks

Only barbless, or micro barbed hooks are to be used.

7. Membership Cards

Membership cards must be carried and shown on request to any other member, bailiff, riparian owner or tenant.

Guest cards can be used up to six times per season (i.e. 25 March – 14 March); members must accompany their guests and ensure their compliance with Club rules.

8. General Behaviour

8.1 Members must respect the river, its surrounding environment and all **flora and fauna**. Members must behave courteously to others, including fellow members and riparian owners. Don't 'crowd' other anglers by fishing too closely to them, unless invited to do so.

8.2.1 Members must **drive** slowly and carefully along designated access tracks, ensure any closed gates are re-secured after access, and be especially careful around any livestock. Care needs to be taken by members when driving along the riverbank and flood bank, and when leaving a vehicle unattended. Risks include:

- grounding on bumps and ruts
- losing traction and control on wet and slippery surfaces
- damage to vehicle by stock
- steep gradients
- theft from vehicle

8.2.2 The club does not accept any liability for any loss or damage caused to members' (including guests') vehicles and cannot guarantee that safe access is always possible.

8.2.3 Members must not drive their vehicles at any time in the designated Site of Importance for Nature Conservation,

accessed at the gate at **what3words reference extra.excavate.potato.**

8.2.4 Members can bring a **non- fishing partner or guest**, but the member is responsible for their safety and conduct.

8.2.5 **Dogs** must not be taken on to the fishery, even if retained in a vehicle.

8.2.6 The Club will not tolerate any **litter**, including discarded line.

9 Undertaking jobs/work on the Club's water:

9.1 Insurance cover, riparian arrangements, and our Health and Safety governance means that members are not permitted to undertake any work party or other gathering in the Club's name without formal agreement.

9.2 A written permit obtained from the Secretary is required for members' activities under this restriction.

ISSUE DATE January 2025
Review before April 2027